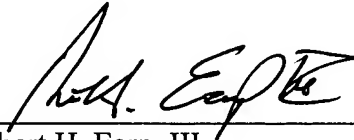




As this is believed to fully address the Notice, Applicant respectfully submits that the RCE and Amendment are fully compliant and the application is now in condition for examination. Early allowance is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. H. Earp, III", written over a horizontal line.

Robert H. Earp, III  
Reg. No. 41,004  
McDonald Hopkins Co., LPA  
2100 Bank One Center  
600 Superior Avenue, E.  
Cleveland, OH 44114-2653  
(216) 430-2003

Date: 9-29-03

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1775



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: Subrata Mokerji Group Art Unit: 1775  
Serial No.: 10/073,527 Examiner: Andrew Piziali  
Filing Date: February 11, 2002 Docket No.: MDYNE/Z002  
(formerly) 500-3013-U  
Title: Zirconium Nitride Coating Having A Top Layer Thereon

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that these papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date below and in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Sept. 29, 2003  
Date of Deposit

Pat Simpson  
(Typed or Printed Name)

Pat Simpson  
(Signature)

Documents deposited:

1. Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (2 pgs)
2. Claim section of Amendment (5 pages)